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Arsonists strike again

West-end blaze comes moments after cops say they're on to firebugs

By VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
Metro Edmonton

Moments after a news conference yesterday where police said that they were close to catching a number of serial arsonists plaguing the city's west end, another intentionally set blaze broke out in that area.

Since April, 22 fires have been set near Stony Plain Road. Since October, 14 fires have been set in the north end. Yesterday around 11:30 a.m., a truck and camper were set

on fire in a back alley near 98 Avenue and 154 Street, bringing the tally up to four in the Meadowlark area in the past two weeks.

Desperate to put out the flames, police Chief Mike Boyd organized a special task force at the beginning of June made up of 18 members

of various detachments, and believe they're closing in on the firebugs.

"Part of the first phase was the surveillance covert techniques that we're using to gain information on the suspects," said Staff Sgt. Gary Peebles. "We have three suspects for the Stony Plain Road fires, one suspect for the north-end fires, and we have three suspects that we're looking at for the Meadowlark-area fires

over the past few weeks."

Peebles said there is no connection between the arsonists, and it is believed a number of the fires were copycat crimes.

Police believe the suspects responsible for the Stony Plain Road fires are adults, but say the Meadowlark fires are likely being set by children.

West-end residents have been on high alert since hearing rumours of serial arsonists targeting their area. Police have received over 30 tips since the task force was formed.

One person has been charged in connection with the fires in the city's north end.

—victoria.handysides@metronews.ca

Chief Mike Boyd

» celeb buzz p.18

'absurd'

Michelle denies rumours of feud with Heath's family



» loyalty rewards p.12

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PHOTO BY JEFFREY MCKEE FOR METRO EDMONTON

New ride, old look

Staff Sgt. Glen Haner stands with a new police cruiser that sports a retro black-and-white paint scheme — one that was in service from the 1950s to 1973. To celebrate the 135th anniversary of the RCMP, 12 retro-looking cruisers will be stationed throughout the province for operational duties and display opportunities.

Natural gas customers get a break

Customers fed up with natural gas prices in Northern Alberta will soon be getting a break.

Direct Energy Regulated Services has filed a proposal with the Alberta Utilities Commission that will see natural gas rates drop from this month's current rate of \$13.042 per gigajoule to \$10.008 per gigajoule in July for each customer who lives north of Red Deer.

A typical residential gas bill for July based on three gigajoules of consumption would be about \$77 in the northern section of the province, says the company.

METRO EDMONTON

'Bucky' named assistant coach

A former Edmonton Oilers captain is returning to the copper and blue as an assistant coach.

Remembered for his gritty play and toughness, Kelly Buchberger will work under bench boss Craig MacTavish in the new season.



"Bucky does a great job in terms of teaching work ethic, he certainly understands all the traits and characteristics that are so important to us and our organization," MacTavish said yesterday.

Buchberger, who captained the Oilers for four seasons, was head coach of the Springfield Falcons — the Oilers' American Hockey League affiliate — last season.

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local



Those wanting to get extra close to the Rexall Edmonton Indy should check out the job fair in Rexall's north parking lot, running today until Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. More than 500 jobs are available in food services for the race. Non-profit groups are encouraged to participate.

METRO EDMONTON



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Valley park gets \$50M boost

Green space will showcase river valley to the world

By JEFF CUMMINGS
Metro Edmonton

An enormous park, stretch-

ing over 7,300 hectares of river valley — from Devon to Fort Saskatchewan — is one step closer to reality after Alberta's government infused the movement with a \$50-million boost in funding.

Sol Rolinger, chair of a

group representing volunteers and mayors dedicated to creating the massive park,

says the funding will go a long way in showcasing the region's "beautiful North

Saskatchewan River valley to the rest of the world."

"This river valley should be preserved and protected for future generations," said Rolinger.

Rolinger says it will take years before the valley will be turned into a park as the

River Valley Alliance group will use the new funding for land acquisitions, building paths and bridges and marketing the park.

The funding was allocated in the province's 2008 budget.

jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

will attract millions

» The park will stretch 88 kilometres along the river and Sol Rolinger, chair of a group supporting the park, says once it's completed, it will attract millions to the region.

Alberta population booming: StatsCan

Business is big in Alberta, and so are the numbers of immigrants flocking to get in on the boom before it goes bust.

A report from Statistics Canada concludes that in the first quarter of 2008, Alberta population rose by almost half a per cent, with 5,300 immigrants, 4,000 of whom are non-permanent residents.

"When you have an economy like Alberta's, which is booming in midst of areas that aren't booming, there's incentive for people that are

mobile to move to areas where the good paying jobs are," said U of A economics professor Denise Young.

People are flocking to Alberta from all parts of the world — as such, it has the highest demographic growth among all the provinces, despite its lowest net increase from interprovincial migration for a first quarter since 1995.

Alberta's population is estimated to be more than 3.5 million people.

VICTORIA HANDSIDES/METRO EDMONTON

Birthday present Alberta art



Sculptor Herman Poulin makes a playful show of appreciation to Ken Kowalski, speaker of the Alberta legislature, as he unveils Poulin's statue that is a gift to Quebec City on the occasion of its 400th birthday. The bronze statue is titled Ensemble/Together. Also on hand, at left, was Jean Johnson, president of the Association Canadienne-Française de l'Alberta.

In Brief

» **ARREST** Transit security guards who stopped four men trying to get a free LRT ride Tuesday say they got more than they bargained for. Peace Officers encountered four men at Coliseum Station, none of whom had purchased tickets to be on the train, around 10 p.m. When asked if they were carrying weapons, one of the men handed over a can of pepper spray, said police, adding that when security attempted to arrest the four men, they ran. When security caught up with one man, he allegedly pulled a twin-handled folding butterfly knife on them. Security pepper sprayed the man and arrested him. Aaron Miles Atchooay, 19, faces weapons-related charges.

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David Liebman, left, a tour de force saxophonist, plays a show at the MacLab Theatre, as part of the Edmonton International Jazz Festival tonight. Wayne Feschuck opens the show, which begins at 7:30pm. Tickets available at the Citadel Theatre Box Office.

METRO EDMONTON

Micro-bugs discovered

Alberta museum scientists find 24 new creatures

By JEFF CUMMINGS
Metro Edmonton

Scientists at the Royal Alberta Museum believe they may have discovered 24 tiny new bugs: microscopic creatures dozens of times smaller than the period at the end of this sentence.

After completing a large monitoring program last year where more than 4,500 microscopic specimens were obtained from over 1,200 stations across the province,



Dr. Tyler Cobb displays a live view of a mite on his computer screen yesterday.

scientists believe they have discovered 108 new mites to Alberta, 11 to Canada, and 24 that are completely new to science.

"Basically, what it shows is there are a lot of things out there that we haven't really looked for," said Dr. Tyler

Cobb, a curator of invertebrate zoology at the museum.

Cobb says the total numbers of mite species that are now known to the province is greater than what is known in Saskatchewan and B.C. combined and that's only from one year of sampling.

"The potential from what we can learn from that is exponential," said Cobb who notes the bugs could be studied to look into how climate change is affecting Alberta.

Cobb says some of the tiny bugs can be studied to determine soil health in Alberta — a key indicator for a warming climate.

It's too early to tell just how

partnership

» The research project is being done through a partnership with the museum, the University of Alberta, the Alberta Research Council and the Alberta Conservation Association.

climate change is affecting the province as their research is still ongoing, says Cobb.

Museum spokeswoman Julianne Veldman says the research program is an opportunity for the museum to build on its natural historical collections at an "unprecedented scale," along with sharing Alberta's latest science discoveries.

fire inspectors

Popular pub fined for overcrowding

HUDSON'S A popular Edmonton pub in Oliver has been fined \$3,500 by the city yesterday for overcrowding after fire inspectors found the club had 64 more people than was legally allowed back in February.

Officials with Hudson's Taphouse near 112 Street and 104 Avenue had pleaded guilty to the charge and the city's fire service says the pub was warned about overcrowding two weeks before they were charged.

"When overcrowding occurs, patrons are put at risk..." said Fire Chief Randy Wolsey in a press release.

METRO EDMONTON

»news

In Brief

» **SLASHING** Police say they arrested a man attempting to slash tires with a throwing star yesterday. Police were called to a parking lot near 177 Street and 69 Ave after receiving a complaint about someone allegedly slashing tires of up to six vehicles. When they arrived, police claim they found a throwing star on the ground. The cut marks on the tires matched the famous ninja weapon. John Ernest Collins, 25, faces several weapons and public mischief charges.

METRO EDMONTON



Darlene Kent shows a poster she has put up in the north side looking for her stolen dog Leonard.

Stolen: 'Part of the family'

Couple offering reward for pup taken from yard

By VICTORIA HANDSIDES
Metro Edmonton

When Darlene Kent realized her black lab puppy was missing from her backyard, she said she felt sick to her stomach — someone had stolen him.

"They took his dish of food with him too," she said. "Obviously the dog wouldn't have taken that with him. It's terrible."

Kent said that when her boyfriend Charlie returned to their Highlands area home after work one afternoon, he realized that someone jumped

the fence, and stole eight-month-old Leonard out of the backyard.

"The fence is solid wood, with key-locked gates on either side, they would have had to have jumped it."

The couple has been caring for Leonard since Kent put him under the Christmas tree in December. The black lab, cocker spaniel cross puppy was a gift for the two to become parents all over again, as Kent's kids have all left home.

"He followed me all over the house. Sometimes he and Charlie would greet me on the steps or bus stop when I came home from work. He became every aspect of our lives," she said.

Since the theft two weeks

ago, Kent said she continues looking for Leonard, and has pinned up hundreds of posters and calls the city pound twice every day.

"I cry all the time," she said. "Everything around the house has changed."

"This person has to be pretty low and have no regard for the animal, because it's part of someone's family," Kent said. "I used to call Charlie paranoid because he was so careful with him, but I guess he's not just paranoid."

Kent is offering a generous reward for anyone that brings Leonard home safely.

"He was loved beyond anything and we really want him back — he was part of the family."

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Statistics Canada reported yesterday, that three in 10 Canadian households consumed bottled water as their primary drinking source in 2006. People in high-income homes were more likely to drink bottled water than people in low-income homes.

SOURCE: CBC NEWS ONLINE

Terror case continues

Khawaja labelled courier by witness

In the murky Al Qaeda underworld, Canadian Momina Khawaja was a courier, a bomb maker and a steady source of cash, court was told yesterday.

Emails and an eyewitness account showed that the accused 29-year-old terrorist was prepared to do whatever he could to support the jihadist movement based in Pakistan, including handing over thousands of dollars and recommending a suicide attack on Israel, the Crown's star witness, Mohammed Junaid.

deal

» Babar struck a deal with U.S. federal officials for a reduced sentence.

Babar testified

Justice Douglas Rutherford of Ontario Superior Court heard that Khawaja carried on email conversations about bomb making in 2003, delivered items to Al Qaeda in Pakistan and provided a home for the "brothers" to stay in Rawalpindi. Khawaja is being tried by Rutherford without a jury.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Protest **Harper's cabinet shuffle**



PATRICK DOYLE/REUTER

A protester argues with an RCMP officer before a swearing-in ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa yesterday. The sign refers to David Emerson who is the new foreign affairs minister after Prime Minister Stephen Harper shuffled his cabinet yesterday to accomodate for Maxime Bernier's recent resignation. Senator Michael Fortier moves from public works to the international trade portfolio that Emerson leaves.

»news In Brief

» **ONTARIO** Anthony Hanemaayer's acquittal yesterday for a 1987 sex attack committed by Paul Bernardo exposed what his lawyers call a multitude of problems plaguing Canada's justice system, including the use of dangerous eyewitness

evidence. Hanemaayer's lawyers hope his wrongful conviction and the 20 years he spent paying for Bernardo's crime will translate into compensation for their client and a police investigation into whether the serial killer committed other offences.

» **BLACK** A U.S. federal appeals court yesterday upheld the conviction of former press baron Conrad Black and three ex-colleagues found guilty last year of defrauding shareholders of Hollinger International Inc.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bernier breaks public silence

With his first public statement in over a month, Maxime Bernier yesterday denied his ex-girlfriend Julie Couillard ever told him about her past and criminal associations.

A black and white portrait photograph of Maxime Bernier, a man with light-colored hair and a slight smile, looking directly at the camera.

Bernier, who resigned as foreign affairs minister in late May after learning he had left classified documents at Couillard's home, said the papers were briefing notes prepared for a NATO summit in early April.

He said he did not notice they were missing because their contents were not sensitive enough to warrant having a bar code attached, which would have allowed their location to be monitored.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Bernier

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world



Actors Brad Pitt, left, and Angelina Jolie have donated \$1 million for educational aid to children impacted by the Iraq war in that country and in the United States, a charitable organization said yesterday.

REUTERS

Africa

Zimbabwe vote a 'sham,' Bush says

ELECTION President George W. Bush yesterday called run-off elections to be held in Zimbabwe tomorrow a 'sham' and accused President Robert Mugabe's government of intimidation.

Zimbabwe's neighbours have urged postponement of the elections, saying that re-election of Mugabe could lack legitimacy.

REUTERS



Argentina Fur protest



Activists clad in underwear with red body paint protest against the use of fur in Buenos Aires, Argentina, yesterday.

MARCOS BRINDICCI/REUTERS

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6 dead at U.S. plant

Worker argued with boss before shootings: Police

A worker at a plastics plant in Kentucky shot and killed five people inside the factory yesterday and wounded a sixth before killing himself, police said.

Local media reports said the violence was triggered by a

dispute the 25-year-old man had with a supervisor, who was among the dead.

The police department in Henderson, Ky., said the man who did the shooting entered the Atlantis Plastics plant in Henderson and began firing a handgun. He was not immediately identified.

The shooter, who died of a self-inflicted wound, and one

of his victims were pronounced dead inside the plant.

Four others were pronounced dead after being taken to hospitals and a sixth victim was in stable condition at a hospital in Evansville, Ind., police said.

Atlantis, which has a number of U.S. plants, produces molded plastics at the Henderson facility.

REUTERS

IOC rebukes China for Tibet speech

Upset about mixing sports and politics

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) told China yesterday to stop mixing sport and politics after a speech by Tibet's Communist Party boss at the end of last weekend's Beijing torch relay leg in Lhasa.

Paralympic torch

» China, whose Beijing Olympic torch relay was dogged by protest overseas, yesterday cancelled the international leg of the Paralympic torch relay.

"The IOC regrets that political statements were made during the closing ceremony

of the Torch Relay in Tibet," the IOC said in a brief statement.

"We have written to BOCOG (Beijing Games organizers) to remind them of the need to separate sport and politics and to ask for their support in making sure that such situations do not arise again."

REUTERS

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Rocket attack puts ceasefire in danger

Israel closes border but no retaliation to militant strike

Israel kept its border crossings with the Gaza Strip shut yesterday, saying it was in response to a Palestinian rocket salvo that breached an Egyptian-brokered ceasefire.

The crossings were to have opened at 8 a.m. local time to let imports reach the impoverished territory. But Israeli military liaison official Peter Lerner said they would stay closed until further notice.

"Any reopening will be in accordance with security considerations," he told Reuters.

Raed Fattouh, the Palestinian co-ordinator of supplies entering Gaza, said: "The Israelis have informed us that the crossings with Gaza will remain closed until further notice."

Official said that Israel had told Egypt the crossings would reopen to goods today.

Lerner said he was not aware of any such decision.

A European Union official said EU-funded fuel deliveries via Israel to Gaza's main power plant were suspended due to the Israeli move.

The EU official said fuel had been delivered on Tuesday and based on current projections, the power station should be able to continue operations through the week even if deliveries did not resume immediately.

On Tuesday, Islamic Jihad militants fired several rockets into southern Israel, breaching a five-day-old Gaza truce in what they called retaliation for the Israeli army's killing of one of their commanders in the occupied West Bank.

The ceasefire deal does not cover the West Bank.

Earlier, a Palestinian offi-

REUTERS

Jerusalem Fireworks show



REUTERS/BAZ RATNER

Israelis watch a fireworks display yesterday during the celebration for the inauguration ceremony of The Bridge of Strings in Jerusalem.

China issues warnings

China's financial hub of Shanghai has sent notices to dissidents, petitioners and other "controlled" people banning them leaving the city during the Olympics to ensure security, a rights group said on Tuesday. They are also not allowed to give their political opinions to the foreign media, leave the country or store weapons or explosives at home, the Hong Kong-based Information Center for Human Rights and Democracy said in a statement.

REUTERS

In Brief

» SPY A White House-backed spy bill to protect telecommunication companies from billions of dollars in potential damages from privacy lawsuits passed a Senate test vote yesterday, and headed toward final congressional approval.

REUTERS

» TITANIC An unused life jacket from the doomed Titanic ship sold for \$68,500 in New York yesterday, Christie's auction house said. The cork-filled life preserver was thought to have been found by a Halifax farmer.

REUTERS

Radical shift needed: Study

'Carbon revolution' required to curb warming: Group



carbon productivity

» The group estimated the world needed to produce \$7,300 of gross domestic product (GDP) for every ton of carbon dioxide emitted by 2050, up from a carbon productivity rate of \$740 now.

The world needs a shift as radical as the Industrial Revolution to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 while safeguarding economic growth, the McKinsey Global Institute said yesterday.

It said in a study that a modern "carbon revolution"

to curb global warming would require a tenfold rise by 2050 in the level of economic output for every ton of greenhouse gases emitted, mainly by burning fossil fuels.

"This is comparable in

"Increasing carbon productivity tenfold in less than 50 years will be one of the greatest tests humankind has ever faced. But both history and economics give us confidence it can be done," it said.

Most technologies were already available, ranging from better building insulation to cleaner coal generation, to axe world emissions of greenhouse gases by 64 per cent by 2050, it said.

REUTERS

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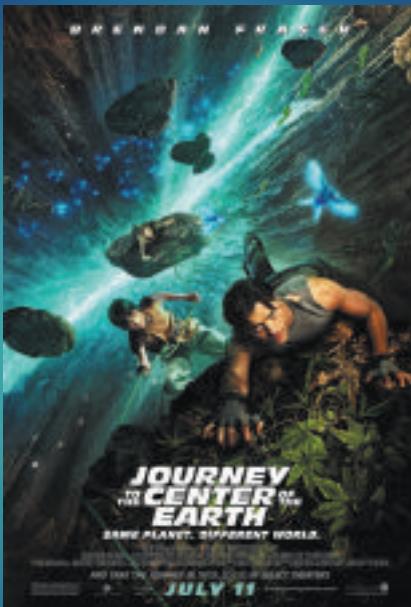
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business

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RIM heralds new products

Co-CEO Jim Balsillie said yesterday that BlackBerry-maker Research In Motion Ltd. will roll out a "flurry" of new products through the second half of the year, and that the pricing of some devices could be lowered in a bid to drive further acceptance.

A similar strategy has been adopted by Apple, which said earlier this month that its second-generation iPhone would cost as little as \$199 US with

carrier subsidies, compared to \$399 US for the existing model.

RIM yesterday reported fiscal first-quarter earnings that more than doubled to \$482.5 million US. Sales rose to \$2.24 billion as RIM's global subscriber base grew by 2.3 million to a total of about 16 million. However, RIM failed to meet the market's expectations for earnings for the first time in five quarters. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

EnCana to buy La. properties

Indigo Minerals LLC said yesterday it will sell some of its acreage in northwestern Louisiana to EnCana Corp. for \$457 million US, just over a week after EnCana an-

nounced its entrance into the hot exploration region.

Indigo, owned by private-equity investors, said the properties total 89,500 acres in several counties. **REUTERS**

»news
In Brief

» **EXXON** The U.S. Supreme Court threw out the \$2.5 billion US in damages that Exxon Mobil had been ordered to pay for the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. **REUTERS**

metro

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sports



The Tampa Bay Lightning and forward Vincent Lecavalier, left, have reportedly agreed to a nine-year deal. TSN.ca reports the star centre agreed to an extension that will pay him \$77 million US.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



ALEXANDER HASSENSTEIN/BONGARTS/GETTY IMAGES

Germany's Philipp Lahm, centre, celebrates after scoring in the 90th minute against Turkey during semifinal action yesterday at Euro 2008 in Basel, Switzerland. Lahm's goal proved to be the winner that sent Germany into Sunday's championship final.

Germany pulls one out

Lahm's late goal helps favourites advance to final

Euro 2008

Germany beat Turkey 3-2 in another Euro 2008 thriller yesterday to line up a final on Sunday against either Russia or Spain and end their opponents' roller-coaster ride through the tournament.

Turkey, who saved themselves with late goals in three previous matches, appeared to have repeated the feat when Semih Senturk equalized to make it 2-2 in the 86th minute and seemingly force extra time.

But Germany, who had been second best for most of



peaceful celebrations

» Berlin police reported no serious trouble immediately after Germany's Euro 2008 semifinal win over Turkey yesterday in a match watched by hundreds of thousands of Germans and Turks around the city.
» A police spokeswoman said there had been 11 arrests for minor offences at the "fan mile" in the centre of the city, where an estimated 500,000 people had gathered to watch the eagerly-anticipated game on three giant screens.

the match against a side ravaged by suspensions and injury, took a page from Turkey's book and came back themselves in the final minute of normal time to snatch victory in Basel, Switzerland.

Defender Philipp Lahm, who had failed to stop the cross that led to Turkey's equalizer, emerged as the match winner after playing a one-two with Thomas Hit-

zlsperger and lashing the ball high into the net past goalkeeper Rustu Rebecer.

"It was one of most beautiful moments in my life, getting into the final," Lahm said. "That's always beautiful. We missed that at the (2006) World Cup. Today it worked out. We want to win the title."

Germany's delighted coach Joachim Loew said: "It was an insane battle, incredible tension up till the last second.

REUTERS

That makes me obviously very happy."

Turkey coach Fatih Terim congratulated Germany and added: "I am proud of my players and think their will to play well, and the technical support, all came together and they were able to show the world what a good team they were."

"I think we are leaving as the most colourful team of the tournament. We can say we were almost there, but that is part of football as well."

Germany will need to produce a far better performance in Vienna, where Russia and Spain meet today, than they did yesterday to be crowned European champions for a fourth time.

REUTERS

MLB

Reds edge Jays in extra innings

VICTORY Jay Bruce hit a sacrifice fly in the 10th inning to lift the Cincinnati Reds to a 6-5 win over the Blue Jays last night in Toronto.

Ken Griffey Jr. hit a two-run homer for the Reds, who snapped a two-game skid.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

INTERLEAGUE
Boston 5 Arizona 0
Chicago Cubs 7 Baltimore 4
Cincinnati 6 Toronto 5 (10 ings)

Kansas City 4 Colorado 2
N.Y. Yankees 10 Pittsburgh 0
N.Y. Mets 8 Seattle 2
San Francisco 4 Cleveland 1

Tampa Bay 15 Florida 3
Washington 5 L.A. Angels 4

Texas 3 Houston 2
St. Louis at Detroit
Minnesota at San Diego

Philadelphia at Oakland
Chicago Sox at L.A. Dodgers

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta 4 Milwaukee 2

TODAY'S GAMES

INTERLEAGUE

Tampa Bay at Florida, 10:10
St. Louis at Detroit, 11:05
Baltimore at Chicago Cubs, 12:20
Chicago Sox at L.A. Dodgers, 1:10
Minnesota at San Diego, 1:35
Philadelphia at Oakland, 1:35
N.Y. Yankees at Pittsburgh, 5:05
San Francisco at Cleveland, 5:05
Cincinnati at Toronto, 5:07
Texas at Houston, 6:05

CFL

WEEK 1

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Montreal at Hamilton, 5

B.C. at Calgary, 8

TOMORROW'S GAME

Toronto at Winnipeg, 6

SATURDAY'S GAME

EDMONTON at Saskatchewan, 5:30

BASEBALL

GOLDEN BASEBALL LEAGUE

GAMES FEATURING THE EDMONTON CRACKER CATS:
LAST NIGHT'S RESULT

Long Beach at EDMONTON

TONIGHT'S GAME

Long Beach at EDMONTON, 7:05

Euro 2008

SEMIFINALS

YESTERDAY'S RESULT

Germany 3 Turkey 2

TODAY'S GAME

Russia vs. Spain, 12:45

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

SUNDAY

Germany vs. Russia/Spain winner, 12:45

LOTTERIES

Lotto 6/49

1, 23, 29, 34, 37 & 45. Bonus 8.

Results not official



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Thursday, June 26, 2008

Rewarding loyal customers

Credit card firms, banks offer many different incentives

Let's say you were walking through a store and you came across a pair of shoes you really wanted, but it was expensive enough for you to say, "Well, I don't really need them." But what if buying those shoes earned you points towards something bigger in the future, such as movie passes or plane tickets? All of a sudden, that price tag may not seem so high.

That's basically how loyalty and reward programs work:



In exchange for shopping exclusively with a retailer or by paying a certain way, customers are in turn rewarded with points they can turn in for luxury items. And Canadians have been participating in them for years — Canadian Tire has been doling out their own dollars and cents since 1958.

Loyalty programs boost profits and provide research for big businesses — and each of them have different rewards initiatives based on

the type of customer they're trying to attract. Metro asked major banks and credit card companies across the country to present some of their most successful rewards programs. Here's what we came up with from the ones that responded to our queries, and you can compare them:

SCOTIABANK: It has a few, but its most dynamic is their Scene program, according to John Doig, senior vice-president

of marketing, sales and service. It's a joint venture with Cineplex targeted at movie-goers and has gained more than

810,000 members in 12 months. Customers get an immediate 10 per cent off on movie concessions and earn points through buying tickets at Cineplex theatres. Rewards include free movie admissions.

CIBC: This bank boasts its AeroGold Visa card — one of the country's biggest — as its most valuable rewards initiative. On average, 2,000 AeroGold members fly for free every day, says Ernie Johannson, senior vice-president

dent of marketing for CIBC retail markets. Cardholders earn one mile for every dollar spent, redeemable for flights and other reward items. Other features include guaranteed hotel reservations, insurance coverage and discounted car rentals. The bank recently launched a program where customers get 1.5 miles per dollar if they shop at gas, grocery or drug stores.

RBC: One-stop shopping is the name of the game with RBC's Visa Avion program. Customers earn points through use of the card and can then redeem points for travel with any airline, merchandise, gift cards (among them Future Shop, Golf Town and Starbucks)

and can even contribute to RRSPs, RESPs or mortgage and loan payments. The program also lets the more altruistic consumer make donations to charities.

BMO: This bank has gone beyond the use of points with credit cards and expanded into debit card use. Its customers can now collect Air



Many banks and credit card companies offer travel rewards as part of their loyalty programs.

Miles by paying with their BMO debit card. BMO media rep Ralph Marranca says a major reason for this was

that last year, the number of debit transactions in Canada surpassed the number of credit card transactions for the first time. One of their biggest credit card programs, Marranca notes, is the revamped BMO Mosaic Gold MasterCard, where customers can get a 20 per cent

discount on Air Miles redemptions, among other benefits.

TD: The bank's TD Visa Infinite Card touts variety as its major selling point, offering cardholders "book any way" flexibility, travel insurance and services. You can apply your points — three TD points for every \$1 you spend on the card — towards deals or promotions with the travel agency, hotel or airline of their choice.

AMEX: This credit card company's AeroplanPlus

program offers one travel rewards mile for every dollar spent on the card (Gold members get 1.25 miles per dollar after they've purchased \$10,000 with the card within a year). In addition, AMEX offers a Blue Sky credit card, where members pay no annual fees and can redeem their rewards for any airline, hotel, cruise or car rental. Cardholders get 1.25 Blue Sky Points for every \$1 of purchases on the card, and free redeemable travel starts at 10,000 points.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Accessibility key aspect of successful programs

Must be able to exchange points for rewards quickly

Initiatives to get your exclusive business are a dime a dozen: Everywhere you look, companies and retailers offer you bonus miles, points, exclusive deals and club memberships. But businesses know that a customer's wants evolve and so must their programs to keep you interested in investing your time and money with them. Here's a look at what the experts call some of the latest trends in loyalty and rewards, and what the successful ones should have.

Reward programs, retail or otherwise, do huge business in Canada, so much so that setting up shop in this country without one is next to unthinkable. The Hudson's Bay Com-



Younger collectors of rewards points are more likely to trade them in for technology and short trips, experts say.

pany, for example, offers its HBC Rewards program through all its outlets: The Bay, Zellers and Home Outfitters. It also offers its program through Esso gas stations.

Kelly Hlavinka, managing partner of Colloquy, a Cincinnati, Ohio-based loyalty marketing researcher, says 9

out of 10 Canadians participate in some manner of rewards program (as opposed to 5 out of 10 in the U.S.).

"Canadian customers are clearly looking for more value when they spend their money," she says. "More consumers are expecting loyalty and reward programs from the

companies with which they do business."

Accessibility is of key importance, says Neil Everett, senior vice-president and chief marketing officer of Air Miles. For a loyalty program to succeed, customers must be able to exchange their points for rewards fairly quickly after signing up, and there has to be a wide range of redeemable items for different consumers. Boomers, for example, are trading in for flights and cruises, families exchange for amusement park passes, and younger collectors (under 30) are choosing technology and short trips.

"It's starting with identifying your customer and the kind of loyalty you're trying to create, and tied to that is your business objective," said Everett. "You have to create the right incentive and aspirations and

make it attainable."

Hlavinka forecasts a bright future for reward programs. More of them will be geared towards women (otherwise known as the primary financial decision-maker in consumer data collecting circles) and technological items such as mobile phones will be more in demand. Experience rewards such as trips will continue to be among the most popular, resulting in a wider range of travel packages being offered.

Soothsaying aside, she notes that a good rewards program, at its heart, should be an accurate reflection of how its customers spend their money.

"It's really a direct result of what customers are engaging in, and the different items they're redeeming their points for," she says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beware of Big Brother?

Firms not likely to mine your details, privacy expert says

By BRIAN TOWIE
for Metro Edmonton

You know the drill: You head to the checkout with your shopping basket and give the salesperson your loyalty and rewards card. They scan it, you pay, and you're that much closer to your reward.

Understand, however, that these types of programs are often two-way streets, and there's a price for the extra benefits you can get: While you're racking up bonus miles and points, retailers are keeping track in their own way by recording your purchasing information — and are privy to data that can tell them when and where you've shopped, how much you've spent, and even the items you've bought.

"They (businesses) can take a look at your transactions and see that you may have a lot of money for discretionary spending and then market to you accordingly," says Michael Janigan, executive director and general counsel with the Public Interest Advocacy Centre in Ottawa. "Or they might look and see that you pay by Visa for amounts as low as \$7 — you may be accessible to advertisements for payday loans. There's a whole wealth of information that can be mined in that circumstance. What is marketed to the customer as an incentive to shop



What happens with your personal information when you scan your loyalty and rewards card at the grocery store?

at a store is actually something quite different."

You can get a fair idea of what businesses are looking at by the kind of junk mail you get, but would it be possible for a marketer, if they were interested in finding out, to electronically rifle through your shopping basket to find out what kind of condoms you're buying? In some programs, yes. While federal privacy laws under PIPEDA (Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act) dictate businesses require your consent to collect or even disclose such information, contracts with these types of programs are entirely one-sided, says Janigan.

But big business retailers and service companies are often too busy to care about the fine details of your spending habits, says David Fraser, a privacy lawyer with Halifax-based firm McInnes Cooper — noting in-house loyalty programs (a store that sets up and runs its own, for example) are more likely to mine specific information for inventory purposes than those offered across several stores.

A 2002 investigation by the federal Privacy Commissioner

found that Air Miles — Canada's largest rewards program at 9.8 million members and counting — collects only basic data from the transaction: The date, store address and name, dollar value, number of miles earned and occasionally the category of purchase and the type of Air Miles card carried.

With the wide popularity of loyalty programs (more than eight million people have Shoppers Drug Mart's Optimum card, for instance), Fraser adds businesses have too much to lose by scrutinizing your personal spending habits. The last thing they want is for you to opt out of their initiative.

"Not everybody is concerned about privacy, but in Canada enough are that it just doesn't make business sense to alienate those people," says Fraser. "They (merchants) get some value from disclosing that information to marketing companies, but the value that they get is not overridden by the damage to the relationship with the customer if they did it without their OK."

» For a list of privacy rights resources online, read this article online at metronews.ca.

Many ways to maximize your points

By RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Edmonton

Saving up your reward points for free flights and TVs is an admirable goal, but what if you don't have enough points for the big stuff? Fear not — there are many ways to stretch your reward spending.

The first thing to do is make sure your reward card is giving you the best reward returns on your purchases. Spending a few bucks on annual fees might be worth it to give you the best collection rate for points.

For example, Aeroplan gives users up to double or triple the amount of points, depending on what level of program-approved credit card you use for purchases,

while BMO offers a similar reward structure with a Bronze Mosaic Air Miles card.

The next thing to do is realize you don't have to save up thousands of miles just to get some use out of your points. Air Miles customers, for instance, can trade points for gift cards, grocery cards and gas cards. Even as few as 25 Air Miles can get you a movie pass.

Perry Schwartz, senior manager of public relations for Air Miles, says the reward system is designed to let people choose rewards they can use on a daily basis.

"It's built around everyday spending. If people just do what they're doing every day, they can hit that 25 miles reward rather quickly," Schwartz said.

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Instead of throwing away candles when they burn down, place them in a heat-resistant container on the coffee maker. Turning the coffee maker on will melt the candles and act as scented potpourri.

HGTV

homefashion

If you think a backyard pool means a rectangular or kidney-shaped pool with a blue liner, think again. Pools these days can be so much more. The design team is thrilled to see some exciting new trends emerging in this area.

Pools were often thought of as purely recreational space for swimming, floating, splashing, playing volleyball, performing cannonballs, and the like. They still are, but they can also be designed to look like natural pools so they fit seamlessly into the environment. They can be designed as a spa, with water jets, seating and temperature controls. They can be lap pools for cardiovascular fitness, and so much more.

Concrete inground pools remain expensive, starting around \$50,000 for a small pool, (less for other types of liners) but we are finding that people seem to be more willing to spend their recreational dollars at home. After all, the regular drive to the cottage or the gas-guzzling flight to a tropical location will likely become more painful as the price of gas goes up.

And to tell the truth, nobody needs to feel as if they're getting less. We've seen some gorgeous trends in pools — ones that will make the backyard an absolute pleasure to enjoy privately and

with many appreciative visitors. These days, there are many ways to create magical places. You won't ever want to leave your home!

One of the newest trends is a "negative edge" or infinity edge pool, with one edge that looks as if it is absent. In reality, the water flows over this edge into a basin, where it is re-circulated back into the pool. The look is stunning in the right environment — such as looking out over a body of water or out from a high place with a vista. Another emerging look is "perimeter overflow" in which the water surface is flush with the decking or stonework surrounding the pool, flowing down invisibly into

small basins at the pool's edge. It looks as if a large reflective mirror has been artfully placed in your backyard and is absolutely stunning.

Fountains and waterfalls over stones add drama, set into a natural environment, as if the pool were put there by Mother Nature herself. Or you can opt for a contemporary look — say, a concrete support that sends water cascading into the pool in a perfectly smooth sheet of water. Either way, a water feature like this not only looks beautiful, the trickling or splashing sound provides a soothing background noise that masks urban noises.

« Exposed stone is also a gorgeous natural look, and concrete embedded with pebbles and stones can look fetchingly natural as well. A black liner adds a delightful pond-like look. »

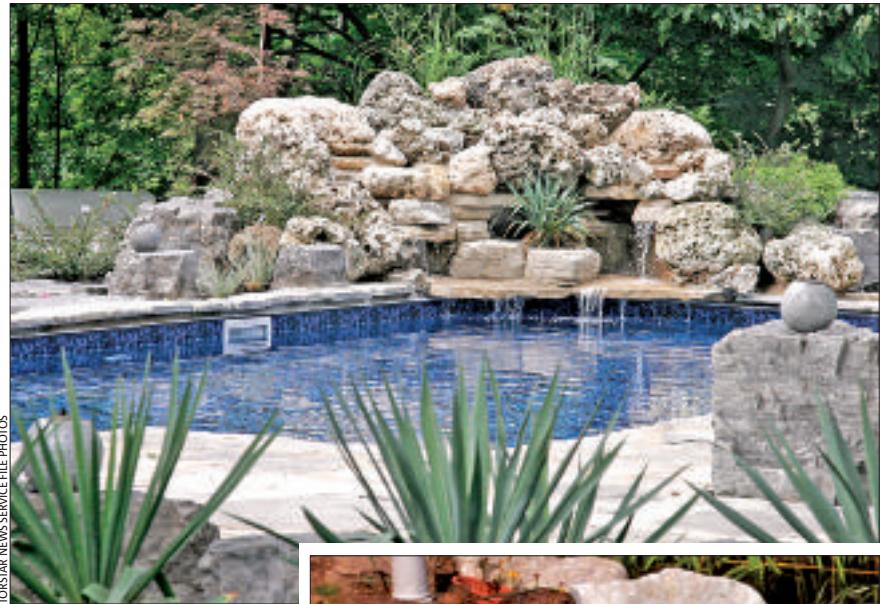
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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTOS

Waterfalls over stones adds a touch of drama to your backyard pool oasis.

Lighting can also add a special touch — from floating solar lights that feature shifting colours, to perimeter lighting, to underwater lighting to illuminate bubbling jets. Automated programmable music adds to the experience, from soothing spa sounds to a laid-back jazz evenings.

Pools finished with mosaic or glass tile is hot look south of the border, expensive but undoubtedly lovely. Exposed stone is also a gorgeous natural look, and concrete embedded with pebbles and stones can look fetchingly natural as well. A black liner adds a delightful pond-like look.

Another emerging idea popular with families with children or elderly users is the sloped

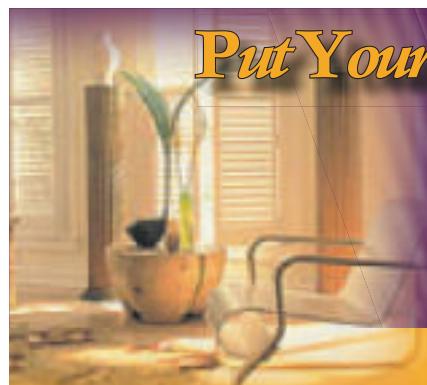


beach-like entrance, rather than steps or a ladder to enter the water. A shallow "wet-deck" type of pool is great for little ones, but also great for adults who want to laze about on their loungers, half-submerged while

they read and sip a cold one, or just nap.

This sounds like a great backyard vacation to us!

Tammy Schnurr and Jeffrey Fisher are hosts of Arresting Design on W Network.



food



To reduce charring the meat on the grill, remove skin from meat and trim off excess fat before seasoning.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Grill low and slow

Summer just isn't summer without ribs on the grill and the secret to succulent ribs is time. These ribs require very little effort, just patience. Allow two hours from start to finish, fortunately with only an occasional check. Turn your barbecue into an outdoor oven and let it do the cooking. Buy the meatier back ribs rather than side ribs or spareribs. Rub with seasonings, cook low and slow and brush with a smoky sauce near end of cooking.



à la carte
BARB HOLLAND

Sauce:

7-oz (198 g) can chipotles in adobe sauce
1/4 cup (50 mL) brown sugar

Slow Cooked Smoky Back Ribs

Chipotles are both smoky and quite spicy, so adjust amount to your taste. Alternate brush ribs with your favourite smoky barbecue sauce. Serve with baked potatoes, corn and cold beer.

INGREDIENTS:

2 slabs of back ribs, about 3 lbs (1.5 kg) in total

Rib Rub:

1 tbsp (15 mL) each: Ground cumin and coriander
1-1/2 tsp (7 mL) each: Chili powder and brown sugar
1 tsp (5 mL) each: Salt, pepper and paprika
1/2 tsp (2 mL) cayenne



Rubbing meat with a flavourful blend of herbs and spices before cooking works like a dry marinade, providing great flavour and sealing in moisture.

METHOD: Remove the thin membrane from undersides of ribs and trim off any excess fat. Rub evenly with rub mixture. If time permits, let stand 20 minutes.

Cook ribs over indirect heat — after preheating barbecue, turn one burner off and reduce heat on other burner(s) to low. Place ribs on unlit side, close lid and cook for 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 hours, turning over and rearranging occasionally. Place an oven thermometer in barbecue to check temperature is about 300°F (150°C). Ribs are done when you can "wiggle" the end of the rib bones and the meat is "relaxed."

Puree entire can of chipotles and adobe sauce in small food processor or blender. Measure out 1/4 cup (50 mL) and combine with brown sugar. Brush ribs with sauce mixture and cook another 10 to 15 minutes. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Rib tips:

- Rain check — for an alternative cooking method, arrange ribs on a rack set in a shallow baking pan. Cook in 300°F (150°C) oven as above.
- Freeze remaining pureed

chipotles in small amounts to use later in chili, for a mopping sauce to brush on grilled chicken or pork, or stirred into mayonnaise for a spicy, smoky dipping sauce.

- The Right Rib — Back ribs are from the blade and centre section of a pork loin and are meatier than side ribs (or spareribs). One rack weighs about 1-1/2 lbs (750 g). Plan on 3/4 to 1 lb (375 - 500 g) per person. Side ribs are cut from the belly or side and the ribs are longer and less meaty

than back ribs. Plan on 1lb (500 g) per person.

Rub tips:

- Rubbing meat with a flavourful blend of herbs and spices before cooking works like a dry marinade, providing great flavour and sealing in moisture.

- Dry mixtures are a low fat way to add maximum flavour in minimal time and they work equally well on small or large pieces. While you can buy seasoning mixes, it's easy to create your own blends and with much less salt, which tends to draw moisture out of meat.

- Dry mixtures are a low fat way to add maximum flavour in minimal time and they work equally well on small or large pieces. While you can buy seasoning mixes, it's easy to create your own blends and with much less salt, which tends to draw moisture out of meat. Make sure your herbs and spices are fresh for best flavour and feel free to be creative.

- As a guideline, use about 1 tbsp (15 mL) to season a pork chop, chicken leg or steak. Use about 2 to 3 tbsp (30 to 45 mL) to season a rack of ribs, whole chicken or a roast. For lean meats, such as skinless chicken and pork steaks, mist or lightly brush seasoned meat with vegetable oil before cooking.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.



bbq like a pro
Grilling tips for best flavours

METHOD Barbecue grills are not noted for being non-stick, so here are a few tips to help prevent your food from becoming one with the grill.

- » Each time you've finished barbecuing, burn off the remains. Let the gas grill run on high for 10 minutes (covered), then cool and scrape clean. This also prevents lingering flavours from going rancid and midnight raccoon raids.

» Before you start up the barbecue, lightly brush cold grates with vegetable oil or use an oiled paper towel.

- » Make sure grill is sufficiently hot, allow at least 10 minutes to preheat a gas barbecue; and 45 minutes for a charcoal grill or when the coals are covered in gray ash. Cool initially at high or medium-high heat to sear both sides of meat, then reduce to medium or low. Close lid to hold in heat.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Welcome to fudgy heaven

Canadian Trish Magwood has won the prestigious James Beard Award in the Entertaining category for her recent book of recipes and entertaining strategies, *Dish Entertains*. The James Beard awards, considered the "Oscars" of the culinary world, were announced early June during a three-day gala celebration in New York City.

Harper Collins Canada offered Metro this chewy, delicious recipe that kids will love from the award-winning book *Dish Entertains*:

Mocha Brownies

There are two camps when it comes to brownies — fudge brownies and cake brownies. If you fall into the fudge camp, you

have found heaven with this recipe. Makes 12 large or 24 mini brownies.

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup (250 mL) all-purpose flour
1 tbsp (15 mL) instant espresso powder
1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt
6 oz (175 g) bittersweet chocolate, chopped
2 oz (60 g) unsweetened chocolate, chopped
3/4 cup (175 mL) unsalted butter, cubed
1 1/2 cups (375 mL) sugar
2 1/2 tsp (12 mL) vanilla
4 large eggs
3/4 cup (175 mL) semi-sweet chocolate chips

METHOD: Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Butter a 13-x

9-inch (3 L) baking pan and line with parchment paper (or grease pan and dust with flour).

In a small bowl, combine flour, espresso powder and salt. Set aside.

In a medium heat-proof bowl over a pot of barely simmering water, melt bittersweet chocolate, unsweetened chocolate and butter together, stirring occasionally. (Make sure no water touches the chocolate.) Remove from heat and add sugar and vanilla; stir with a wooden spoon or spatula until smooth. Stir in eggs, one at a time, until incorporated. Fold in flour mixture. Stir in chocolate chips.

Spread in prepared pan and bake for 25 to 30 min-



Dish Entertains
by Trish Magwood is
available at Amazon.ca with a
current list price of \$28.32 for
the hardcover edition.

utes, or until set but a few crumbs stick to tester when inserted. Let cool on a rack.

Chocolate tips:

- "Like water for chocolate" — ever wonder what that phrase meant? When chocolate is being melted, any



Serve these fudgy brownies with warm chocolate and dulce de leche dipping sauces, if you like.

amount of water in the chocolate will make it seize. (Don't ask. It's ugly and you'll have to start over.) Chocolate doesn't like moisture, so don't keep it in the fridge — best to keep in a cool, dark, dry place.

- Once brownies have cooled, using a small round cookie cutter, cut into rounds and skewer onto popsicle sticks for brownie lollipops. Serve them with warm chocolate and dulce de leche dipping sauces, if you like.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HARPER COLLINS CANADA

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entertainment

Free speech on mind

Actor Stein explores volatile world of Intelligent Design

By RICK McGINNIS
for Metro Edmonton

Ben Stein admits that he's probably most famous for his deadpan cameo as a teacher in Ferris Bueller's Day Off, though at various times he has been a game show host, a speechwriter for Richard Nixon, and a columnist for Penthouse magazine. His career has had many different chapters, but the latest puts him in the middle of a controversy that most people probably thought had been laid to rest with the Scopes Monkey Trial.

As the narrator and protagonist of the documentary *Expelled*, Stein goes on a journey through the universities, museums and scientific institutions of America and Britain, trying to figure out just why everyone there seems to be in a rage about Intelligent Design, a theory that suggests that some sort of built-in logic or intervention might be the best way to explain away questions that still bedevil the study of evolution. Jobs have been lost, reputations damaged or even destroyed, and battle lines drawn across almost every scientific discipline.

Stein insists that he was sure that he'd get answers from the Darwinian camp



Writer, actor and TV personality Ben Stein jumps into the controversial world of Intelligent Design in his documentary *Expelled*.

that would make ID look like the joke it's supposed to be. "Three years ago or whenever we started this, I thought I was going to come to a completely different result than the one I came to," Stein says. "I thought I'd just go to (ID's proponents), and I'll say, look, this is an interesting idea but we now

know that you guys are fruitcakes, and so we now know the answers. But we never found the answers, and frankly their answers started to sound more and more plausible."

Ultimately, Stein says he remains less interested in scientific theories than freedom of

speech, and the way that any debate about ID has been crushed or dismissed outright.

"To tell you the truth, I don't have particularly strong feelings about ID. I have a

strong feeling that Darwinism doesn't explain as much as people think it does, but I'm not worried about

that one way or another, but I'm very worried about freedom of speech issues. I'm worried about them in the U.S. and, from what I've been told by close Canadian friends, I'm worried about them in Canada, too. I think Canada has some big free speech issues it's facing now."

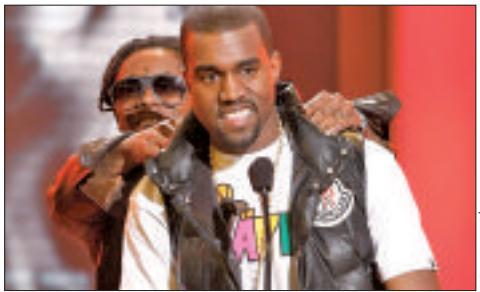
The battle over ID is typified — not entirely accurately — as one between science and religion, though Stein maintains that the worship of science above morality and the suppression of dissent is at the heart of the worst atrocities of the last century, including the Holocaust. "My sister, who's a very smart woman, likes to say, 'Your basic human is not such a hot item.' And I think that's a very good understanding of what's gone on in the 20th century, and all the centuries prior to it, and also in this century. How you deal with that is a big, big problem, but telling people what they can and cannot say is not the way to deal with it."

West receives two nods at BET awards

Keys hails Obama during show

Rap star Kanye West picked up two prizes Tuesday at the BET Awards, while Alicia Keys was one of several stars who used the occasion to salute presidential contender Barack Obama.

The only other multiple winner was the hip-hop duo UGK, consisting of Bernard "Bun B" Freeman and the recently deceased Chad "Pimp C" Butler. In all 15 awards



Kanye West, front, and Lil Wayne at BET Awards.

Keys, flying high with a successful worldwide tour, a chart-topping album and an upcoming film, shared the stage with three leading female ensemble acts from the 1990s — TLC, En Vogue and Sisters with Voices — for a medley of R&B music.

She went on to win the prize for best female R&B artist, and offered a heartfelt endorsement to Obama. "Together we can do anything — Obama, y'all!" she enthused.

were handed out during a three-hour show mixing the heroes of contemporary hip-hop and old-school R&B.

REUTERS

Actress Taylor Momsen, right, 14, who stars on *Gossip Girl*, has just signed to IMG Models, the agency has confirmed.

PEOPLE.COM



Sopranos garb garners big bucks

Auction sells show's clothes for charity

Tough North Jersey mob boss Tony Soprano from hit TV series *The Sopranos* whacked buyers' bank accounts at Christie's yesterday when his wardrobe sold for \$187,750 US — four times the auction house's forecast.

James Gandolfini, who played Soprano for six seasons over 8½ years, sold his personal costume wardrobe in 25 lots at Christie's pop culture auction, with all proceeds going to Wounded Warrior, a charity that helps wounded U.S. troops.

The top lot was a bloody outfit worn when Soprano was shot at the beginning of season six by Uncle Junior in a fit of dementia, which sold



striped boxer shorts, striped short robe and leather scuffs go under the hammer for \$21,250, again soaring above the pre-sale estimate of \$1,500.

Another robe — forecast to go for \$1,500 — fetched \$13,750, while the blue shirt worn by the mob boss in the opening credits of the TV show sold for the same amount, well above the estimate of between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

Also up for grabs were a selection of costumes worn by other *Sopranos* characters, including Junior Soprano, Paulie Walnuts and A.J. Soprano.

The award-winning HBO series broke new ground for television: Portraying a conflicted man who tries to balance family life with his Mafia career.

REUTERS

Clothes worn by James Gandolfini, second from right, who portrayed mob boss Tony Soprano in the hit HBO show *The Sopranos*, sold for over \$185,000 at a Christie's auction yesterday. The money raised went to Wounded Warrior, a charity that helps wounded U.S. troops.

for \$43,750, nearly 12 times Christies' pre-sale estimate

for the outfit.

Gandolfini was at the auc-

tion to see Soprano's signature white tank top, light blue

music

Coldplay album debuts at No. 1

RELEASE British rock band Coldplay's new album debuted at No. 1 on the U.S. pop music chart Tuesday, largely bucking the sales slides that have affected other musicians, the group's label said Tuesday.

Viva La Vida or Death and All His Friends, Coldplay's fourth release, sold more than 720,000 copies in the six days ended Sunday, Capitol Records said.

REUTERS

»news

In Brief

OASIS British rock band Oasis will release their new album *Dig Out Your Soul* on Oct. 6, it announced yesterday. The first single from the group's seventh studio album will be *The Shock of the Lightning* out on Sept. 29.

REUTERS

people

Aiken appeals for aid to Somalia



CRISIS Pop singer Clay Aiken, who gained fame on TV talent show *American Idol*, appealed yesterday for the world not to forget Somalia, where conflict and hunger have created one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. Aiken said U.S. and international interest in Somalia had been minimal since failed military intervention in the early 1990s.

"There hasn't been much discussion of Somalia since the early 1990s in the U.S.," said Aiken, a U.N. goodwill ambassador, on a visit to Somalia.

REUTERS

	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
6/26/08	2 CFRN 239 318 eTalk			Jeopardy! (N)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		So You Think You Can Dance		News (N)		
	3 KHQ - 370 News (N)			Raymond (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Last Comic Standing (N)				Fear Itself (N)		
	4 CBXT - 307 Coronation St.			Who Do-Think	iPod (DVS)	Left Coast (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour		
	6 KREM - 372 News (N)			Hollywood	Friends	Scrubs	How I Met	Engagement	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Swingtown (N)		
	7 CKEM 241 347 Friends			Friends	Hopkins (N)		Ugly Betty (HDTV)		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Your City	
	8 CITV 240 339 ET Canada			Entertainment	Swingtown (HDTV) (N)		Last Comic Standing (N)				News Hour	
	12 CBXFT 119 705 Des squelettes			La Mosquée	Perdu! "Ji-Yeon" (HDTV) (SC)	Bons bâtons de France (SC)		Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)		TJ Alberta		
	13 KXLY - 371 4 News at 6			4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Ugly Betty (HDTV)	Grey's Anatomy		Hopkins		
	16 KAYU - 373 70s Show			The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?	So You Think You Can Dance		News (N)		
	19 CHTV - 70s Show			E! News	Pussycat Dolls: True Story		Smarter Than a 5th Grader?	Fear Itself (PA) (N)		News (N)		
	22 KSPS - 374 NewsHour With Jim Lehrer			Visions of England	New Tricks			Globe Trekker (DVS)		Soundstage (N)		
	24 WTVS - 364 Ask This Old Michigan			Pioneers in Aviation: The Race	Red Green	Time Goes By		Tavis Smiley	Charli Rose (N)			
	15 CBCN 502 - CBC News: The National			The Nature of Things (N)	CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National				Nature-Things	
	21 TWN 505 398 (5) EarthWatch One			EarthWatch One			EarthWatch Two					
	27 CNN 500 500 Larry King Live			Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)			Larry King Live					
	54 CTY 501 391 CTV Newsnet			News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News		
	70 BNN 504 508 Squeeze Play			Market Call	Business News		Market Call	Strictly Legal	Squeeze Play			
	20 TSN 400 400 CFL Football			CFL Football BC Lions at Calgary Stampeders	From McMahon Stadium in Calgary						SportsCentre	
	23 net 408 418 MLB Baseball			Sportnet Connected	Saturday Night Poker		Sportnet Connected				Best-Sports	
	47 SPEED 417 406 Pinks - All Out			Low Life	Low Life	Pinks	Pass Time	Monster Jam	Punks - All Out			
	94 SCORE 410 403 (5) 2008 NBA Draft			Score Tonight	The Spin	Poker Aussie Millions		Cabbin Stars	Score Update			
	9 EDACC 267 351 Law & Order: Criminal Intent			Archaeologist	It's Just Food	Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Pay Dirt: Alberta's Oil Sands		Help TV		
	14 YTV 552 543 Drake & Josh			Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hunt	Falcon Beach		
	17 TREE 553 546 Little Bear			Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolle Polle Olie	Beren. Bears	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Crazy Quilt	
	42 TOON 555 545 Green			Johnny Test	George-Jungle	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Steen	Total Drama	Futurama	Sky Captain	
	45 FAM 557 541 Zoey 101			Life Derek	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	
	- TVA 121 714 TVA 18 heures			Sucré-salé	Les Gags	Cendrillon aux grands pieds (1960, Comédie)		Héros "Contre-coup" (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures		
	18 CMT 575 583 Reba			Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Dedicated (N)	Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.		
	25 A&E 615 520 The First 48 (HDTV)			Crime 360 (HDTV)			Back in the Hood: Gang War 2	The First 48 "Memphis"	The First 48			
	26 MMT 571 581 Popaganda			Celebracababra		Listed		Celebracababra		Chez: Farewell		
	29 FOOD 603 561 Unwrapped			Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Secret Life of	Ace of Cakes	Iron Chef America	Unwrapped			
	31 SHOW 617 522 Trailer Park			Billable Hours	ReGenesis "The End"		Intelligence (DVS)	G-Spot	Exes & Ohs	Secret Diary		
	32 DISC 520 505 Real Superhumans			MythBusters	Daily Planet		Sport Science			Real Super		
	33 SLICE 601 562 Last 10			Bulging Brides	Biggest Loser Australia	Rich Bride, Poor Bride	Last 10	Bulging Brides	Biggest Loser			
	34 W 602 557 Shopping Bag			House	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	Confidential	Save Us-House	Wasted		
	35 TLC 521 560 American Chopper (HDTV) (N)			Miami Ink (HDTV)	American Chopper (HDTV)	Miami Ink (HDTV)				Overhaulin'		
	36 BRAVO 620 523 An Ideal Husband *** (1999, Romance-Comedy)					Law & Order "Deceit"	Without a Trace			Not One Less		
	38 SPIKE 628 584 TNA Impact! (N)						World's Most Amazing Videos	When Stunts Go Bad!		Amazing Video		
	40 HIST 522 506 War Planes F-22 Raptor.			NCIS "Terminal Leave"	Crime Stories		War Planes "Jel"			War Planes		
	41 COM 626 547 Laughs			Air Force	22 Minutes	Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	Laughs		
	43 SPACE 627 528 The Lost Room "The Key and the Clock" (Part 1 of 3)						Stargate SG-1	Star Trek: Voyager		Star Trek: Ent.		
	44 WPCH 294 560 (6) The Perfect Storm *** (2000)				Frasier		Seinfeld	Frasier	The Perfect Storm (2000, Suspense)			
	46 OLN 411 457 Mark Williams' Big Bangs			Don't Forget Your Passport	Pilot Guides		Don't Forget Your Passport			Everest: Man		
	48 TROP 619 525 Tube Tales			Vanity Insanity	Inside Hollywood (DVS)	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld		
	50 STAR 621 527 Staying Young in Hollywood			The Tonight Show-Jay Leno	eTalk	TMZ		The Real James Dean		Hollywood		
	52 HGTV 600 564 Disaster DIY "The Big Flip"			Handyman Superstar		Handyman Superstar		Restaurant Makeover (N)		Disaster DIY		
	65 TLN 700 800 (6) Il Morso del Serpente			The Sopranos (SS)	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Paid Program		Latin Lover		
	92 APTN 269 350 First Talk			News	Raven Tales	From the Spirit	Canadian Geographic	Confessions of Indian Cowboy	The Mix			
	93 VISION 261 394 The Innocents *** (1961, Horror)			Deborah Kerr.	Emily of New Moon			The Innocents *** (1961, Horror)				
	100 MTV 581 566 The Real World			True Life	MTV Live		The Real World			True Life		
	101 MM 570 580 Muchmusic Cldn			Video on Trial	Instant Star	MuchTopTens Top 10.	Gone Wild	Punk'd	Gone Wild	Muchmusic Cldn		
	102 CPAC 512 396 Question Period									Public Record		
	103 CLT 526 507 (6) Hard to Forget			Traders		The West Wing		The District		Hard to Forget		
	105 TV5 145 761 Envoy spécial			Aux frontières de la Chine	Design	Journal TV5	Cinerama	Réalis	Je hais les vacances (2006)			
	106 RDI 126 730 Le Téléjournal (SC)			RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Journal RDI	Le National	Le Téléjournal		

cable variety

CFL Football

The 2008 CFL season gets underway tonight at Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium, where Anthony Calvillo and the Montreal Alouettes hope to erase the memories of a disappointing 2007 campaign against Casey Printers and the league doormat Tiger-Cats. Part of that, undoubtedly, will be getting a full season from veteran quarterback Calvillo, who took a leave of absence late last season to care for his ailing wife. 5 PM on TSN

INTELEVISION
RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca
Intellevision will return

Celebrity Buzz

ALL PHOTOS
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Dark Knight snub 'absurd'

Family affair: Michelle Williams has dismissed reports she is snubbing the premiere of Batman Begins sequel The Dark Knight because of a bust-up with her late boyfriend Heath Ledger's parents, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

Reports suggest Williams wouldn't attend the screening of Ledger's last complete film, because she is angry with Ledger's father Kim's handling of the actor's estate.

But her representative Mara Buxbaum insists the claim is "absurd."

She tells *People.com*, "The presumption that Michelle ever intended to attend The Dark Knight premiere is unfounded, but to say she is 'boycotting' due to a rift with Heath's family is absurd."

"It is time to allow this family to go about their lives without this continued scrutiny and speculation."

Ledger's parents and sister will jet to New York from their home in Australia to attend the premiere on July 14 — six months after Ledger took a fatal overdose of prescription drugs at his Manhattan home.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bateman bans the booze

PEOPLE Juno star Jason Bateman has gone teetotal after his wife persuaded him to give up alcohol, *imdb.com* reports. The 39-year-old star hasn't had a drink in four years and puts his newfound

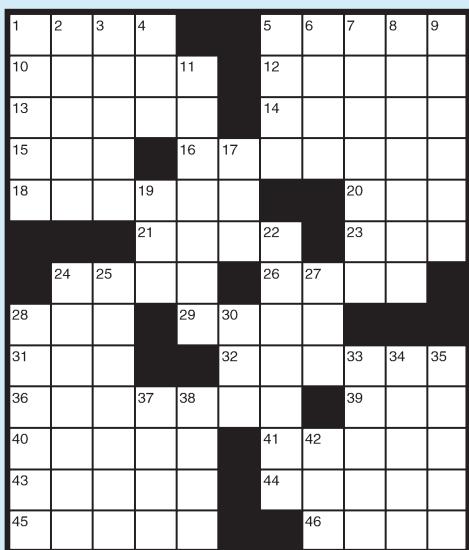


clean living down to a desire to grow up and leave his adolescence behind.

Bateman also credits his wife with helping him give up booze — because she never liked him drinking.

He says, "I've spent all my fun chips and now I've parked my drinking boots in the closet. I haven't had a drink in four years."

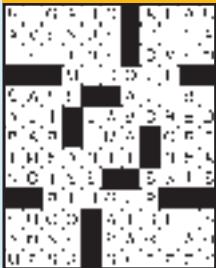
METRO NEWS SERVICES

**across »**

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Baby-sitter's bane | 20 Party staple | 36 Cardigan, e.g. |
| 5 Smackers | 21 Finished | 39 Courtroom oath |
| 10 Radioer's word | 23 Chicago trains | 40 Sensuous dance |
| 12 Metal fastener | 24 Home for José | 41 Mason's partner |
| 13 Digression | 26 Whirlpool | 43 "Lou Grant" star |
| 14 Love, to Luigi | 28 Search for gold | 44 Took an oath |
| 15 Take the cup | 29 Sneaker part | 45 Underhanded |
| 16 Fanged monster | 31 Gunning | 46 Till bills |
| 18 Walks | 32 French brandy | |

down »

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Scuffle | 24 School fundraiser |
| 2 TV's O'Donnell | 25 Dish, perhaps |
| 3 Geriatrics topic | 27 M.B.A. or Ph.D. |
| 4 Poet Hughes | 28 Trattoria choices |
| 5 Pack full | 30 Tennis feat |
| 6 Walk unevenly | 33 Ford's predecessor |
| 7 Steered clear of | 34 Dote on |
| 8 How we roll along | 35 Road markers |
| 9 Brews | 37 Like some cheese |
| 11 Comeback | 38 Major, for one |
| 17 Put away | 42 — Jima |
| 19 Distress code | |
| 22 Annals | |

previous answer

water gardens
enjoy the pond skip the hole enjoy
gardening

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STICKELERS
by Terry Blackish

8 10 1 6	13 X X X X 8
2 9 5	X X X X
7 4	X X X
3	X X

Diagram A Diagram B

As you can see from Diagram A, it is possible to take the first 10 numbers and arrange them in the difference between any two numbers is given by the number directly below and between the two numbers. Diagram B gives you the start of a "transfer format" using the first 13 numbers. Fill in the rest of the same bars so that each number appears only once.

Wednesday's Answer
The answer is...
Sudoku by Andrew T.

4	7	5	9			3
1	6	4	3			
5		2				
	2			9	7	6
1	3	6		8		
			8		5	
8		4	3	2	7	
	9		7	4	2	

instructions »

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time »

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Under 13 minutes | Genius |
| 13-17 minutes | Scholar |
| 17-21 | Smart |
| 21-25 | Pretty good |
| More than 25 | Keep practising |

previous answer

8	4	6	2	1	3	5	7	9
3	5	9	8	7	6	2	1	4
7	2	1	9	5	4	8	6	3
2	6	3	5	4	1	9	8	7
5	9	8	7	6	2	3	4	1
1	7	4	3	8	9	6	2	5
9	3	7	4	2	8	1	5	6
4	1	2	6	3	5	7	9	8
6	8	5	1	9	7	4	3	2

Edmonton weather**Afternoon**Showers.
15°**Tonight**Clear.
Low 8°**Friday**Mainly sunny.
22° / 12°**Saturday**Sunny.
27° / 17°Cloudy.
27° / 15°

Temperature
Normals
High: 21.6°
Low: 9.5°

Records
High: 34.9°/2002
Low: 2.2°/1949

Sunrise: 5:06 a.m.
Sunset: 10:07 p.m.
Moonrise: 12:56 a.m.
Moonset: 2:23 p.m.

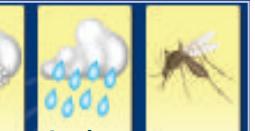
TWN incorporates MSC data



Fall



Winter



Spring



Bug

Get the most out of the season.

Go to the Bug Report at theweathernetwork.com**HOROSCOPE****ARIES** | March 21-April 20

Mechanical problems cause a commotion. Spread the news about a relative's intentions. A meeting will create changes in policy.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21

Friendly behaviour causes wistful thoughts to arise. A co-worker's drama is comical. A man will show compassion.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21

Dreams of the future start to take shape. Work that you've been doing will begin to pay off. Help a parent with a dilemma.

CANCER | June 22-July 22

Someone wants to discuss "important matters". Lost documents will delay a deal. A painful romance is about to end.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23

A peculiar tale won't be very satisfying. Be truthful if you're feeling forlorn. Don't pretend that all is well if it isn't.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Be careful with weird people. Someone picks up the pieces of a broken heart. Give up on unrealistic concepts of happiness.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23

You'll be sure of someone's secret feelings. Keeping a stiff upper lip puts your nerves on edge. A hermit looks to you for kindness.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Somebody shows the depth of their perception. A mother issues an invitation. A crisis situation comes to a head.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Satisfaction comes in strange packages. The solution to a problem is in your room. A red-haired person won't bother to respond.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20

You'll cope well with a minor setback. Other people's property causes nightmares. There's no point repeating yourself.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18

An obsession continues to distract you. A seducer works well with a romantic. Remain firm in the face of silly revelations.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Be playful with a friendly lover. Your finances will involve displeased strangers. An appointment is missed due to forgetfulness.

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9935 170 St.
10620 178 St.
17508 Stony Plain Rd.

NORTH

5 - 14220 Yellowhead Trail
14903 118 Ave.
9624 165 Ave.
12714 137 Ave.
13034 50 St.

SOUTH

10309 34 Ave.
4909 99 St.
4515 Gateway Blvd.
5926 99 St. NW
5912 104 St.

Fort Saskatchewan

9542 86 Ave.
9914 103 St.

Leduc

6B - 5904 50 St.
5205 50 Ave.
7 - 6109 45 St.

Sherwood Park

Sherwood Park Mall
973 Ordze Rd.
162 (Roadking) -
26 Strathmoor Dr.

Spruce Grove

116 Westland Market Mall
30 - 96 Campsite Rd.

St. Albert

St. Albert Centre
30 - 200 St. Albert Rd.
20 Muir Dr.

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